



2012 OVEJA NEGRA CARMENÈRE MERLOT RESERVA

WINEMAKER: Edgard Carter
REGION: Maule Valley, Chile
VARIETALS: 50% Carmenère, 50% Merlot
MATURATION: 50% aged for 8-10 months in older French oak
ANALYSIS: 13.5% alc/vol | TA: 4.93 g/L | pH: 3.57

VINEYARD:

The Carmenère and Merlot grapes come from thirteen and fifteen-year-old vines from Oveja Negra's La Esperanza and Rio Bonito blocks located on its estate San Rafael vineyard in the Maule Valley (124 miles south of Santiago and 12.5 miles from the Andes Mountains range). Growing season diurnal temperatures allow for full varietal ripeness and color development. High temperatures, a lack of rain during January through April, and moderately vigorous soils impart naturally healthy and balanced vine vigor. The crop load is thinned during veraison on an as needed basis. Yield was between three and four tons per acre.

WINEMAKING:

The grapes were hand-picked between early April and mid May and immediately transported to the winery for sorting and gentle de-stemming. Next, the fruit was cold macerated for four days followed by a warm ferment in open stainless steel tanks lasting three weeks and punch downs took place three times daily. Total extended maceration extended was 20-30 days. The wine was then aged for 8-10 months in 100% French oak barrels.

TASTING NOTES:

The 2012 Reserva Carmenère Merlot displays aromas of intense red fruit compote, mingled elegantly with a background of black plums, fine herb characters, and cedar notes. On the palate, there are smooth tannins and a lively acidity which balance with the wine's juiciness and long persistence.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM:

87 pts *Vinous*

ABOUT OVEJA NEGRA:

Translated literally as "Black Sheep," Oveja Negra wines intend to stand out from the flock. True representations of Chile's Maule Valley, Oveja Negra wines sing strident of their roots, but are willing to challenge convention. The Maule Valley offers a significant diversity of soil types, allowing a wide range of grape varieties to grow. As part of the VIA Wines family, and with more than 2,500 acres of estate vineyards to work with, Winemaker Edgard Carter and his team have a constant source of inspiration for innovation and experimentation. The Reserva tier features unusual blends, such as a Sauvignon Blanc-Carmenere. Oveja Negra's Single Vineyard wines are crafted to make each Maule Valley vineyard site shine bright, combining a fruit-driven structure with modern winemaking techniques.



REAL PEOPLE. COMPELLING WINES.

EXCLUSIVE US IMPORTER

703 Jefferson Street, Napa, California 94559

Tel (707) 258 9552 • Fax (707) 258 9577 • www.obcwines.com • cellar@obcwines.com